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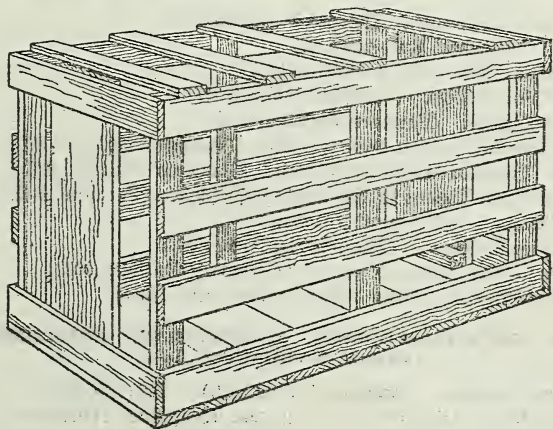
Contribution from the Bureau of Animal Industry.

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HOW TO MAKE A HOG CRATE.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

THE illustration below shows a properly constructed crate for shipping a hog. The sides should be made first, and the floor, top, and ends built around them. The floor should be laid crosswise, which will make the crate stronger. Only good, strong boards should be used. One 12-inch board or two 8-inch boards will do for the ends. A block should be nailed to the floor 1 inch from each end, to keep the end boards from slipping inward.



The crate should be built to fit the hog to be shipped and should be large enough for comfort. A well-built crate may prevent serious injury to your hog. The illustration shows a crate of suitable size for a hog weighing from 250 to 300 pounds. It is 2 feet wide, 4 feet 8 inches long, and 2 feet 8 inches high.

In building the sides of the crate use nails long enough to allow a quarter-inch clinch. Make the clinch crosswise of the grain of the wood. The nails in the end boards are not clinched and the nail heads are left to protrude enough so that the nails can be removed easily with a claw hammer. The top cross board just above the animal's hind quarters is omitted.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

There are two important features in this crate to which attention is called. First, most hog crates are constructed by nailing the side

slats on the inside of the corner standard of the crate. In this plan they go on the outside. They are just as secure and safe if made in this way, and the same lumber will give 2 inches more space.

Second, the closing of the front of the crate usually is accomplished by nailing slats crosswise. In the plan shown it is done by putting in a board standing endwise. This is better for two reasons: First, the end can be opened readily and the hog can walk out with ease instead of being forced to back out, as he is in the ordinary crate. The second reason is that when slats are nailed crosswise, especially when the crate is used for old hogs, they may be pushed off or broken in two while in transit and sometimes allow the hog to get out of the crate.

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